

N.J.A.C. 7:25-4.4 Exempted Species

(a) The following listed species of exotic or nongame mammals, birds, reptiles or amphibians may be possessed in the state without a permit.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Birdsi. Budgerigar – <i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>;ii. Cockatiel – <i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>;iii. Peafowl – <i>Pavo cristatus</i>;iv. Rock dove – <i>Columba livia</i>;v. Canary – <i>Serinus canaria</i>;vi. House Sparrow – <i>Passer domesticus</i>;vii. Zebra finch – <i>Poephila guttatus</i>;viii. Society finch – <i>Lonchura domestica</i>;ix. Emu – <i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i>;x. Ostrich – <i>Struthio camelus</i>;xi. Greater rhea – <i>Rhea americana</i>;xii. Lesser rhea – <i>Rhea pennata</i>2. Mammals:i. Hamster – <i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>;ii. Gerbil – <i>Meriones mongolinensis</i>;iii. Guinea pig – <i>Cavia porcellus</i>;iv. Domestic rabbit – <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>;v. Vietnamese pot-bellied pig – <i>Sus spp.</i>;vi. Pygmy goat – <i>Capra hircus</i>;vii. Mice and rats – <i>Mus spp.</i> and <i>Rattus spp.</i>;viii. Chipmunk – <i>Tamias spp.</i> and <i>Eutamias spp.</i>;ix. Red Squirrel – <i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i> & <i>T. douglasii</i>;x. Flying Squirrel – <i>Glaucomys spp.</i>;xi. Llama – <i>Lama glama</i>;xii. Alpaca – <i>Lama pacos</i>; | <ul style="list-style-type: none">xiii. Guanaco – <i>Lama guanicoe</i>.3. Reptiles:i. American anole – <i>Anolis carolinensis</i>;ii. Common iguana – <i>Iguana iguana</i>;iii. Boa constrictor – <i>Constrictor constrictor</i>;iv. Eastern painted turtles – <i>Chrysemys picta picta</i>;v. Snapping turtles – <i>Chelydra serpentina</i>;vi. Fence lizard – <i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i> & <i>S. undulatus</i>;vii. Garter snake – <i>Thamnophis spp.</i> (except <i>T. sirtalis tetrataenia</i>);viii. Tokay gecko – <i>Gekko gekko</i>;ix. Ribbon snake – <i>Thamnophis spp.</i> (except <i>T. sirtalis tetrataenia</i>).4. Amphibians:i. Leopard frogs – <i>Rana pipiens</i>;ii. Green frogs – <i>Rana clamitans</i>;iii. American toad – <i>Bufo americanus</i>;iv. Fowler's toad – <i>B. w. fowleri</i>;v. Bullfrogs – <i>Rana catesbeiana</i>;vi. Red-spotted newts – <i>Notophthalmus viridescens</i>;vii. Dusky salamanders – <i>Desmognathus fuscus</i>.5. Invertebrates:Any invertebrate other than those listed on any relevant Federal or State of New Jersey Endangered Species List. |
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(b) Such exotic or nongame mammals, birds, reptiles or amphibians must be housed or caged in a manner as to prevent liberation.

N.J.A.C. 7:25-4.5 Additional Species

A permit shall be required for any other exotic mammals, birds, reptiles, or amphibians, or nongame species not specifically exempted by Section 4.4.

NOTE: Emus, ostriches, greater rheas, and lesser rheas were designated as agricultural livestock pursuant to P.L. 1997, c. 316 (N.J.S.A. 4:2-17); and llamas, alpacas, and guanacos were designated as agricultural livestock pursuant to P.L. 1994, c. 33 (N.J.S.A. 4:2-16). Therefore, they are classified exempt species and do not require a permit for possession.

NOTE: While the above listed exotic and nongame animals do not require a permit for possession, these animals may not be taken from the wild for any reason. New Jersey Fish & Wildlife strongly recommends you keep documents for all exempt species.

All hybrids (where at least one parent is domestic) are exempt from requiring a permit. NJFW strongly recommends that you keep all paperwork (including genetic and receipts) pertaining to the hybrid.

Also see the lists of Species Requiring Permits and Potentially Dangerous Species. For further information or clarification, call the Wildlife Permits Unit, Exotic and Nongame Permits Section at 609-292-9591 or email NJWildlifePermits@dep.nj.gov.